

# EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

## Patent Abstracts of Japan

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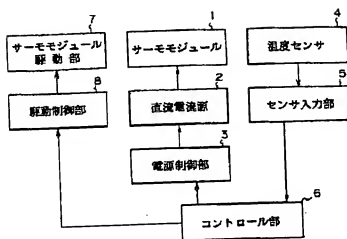
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APPLICANT : SHARP CORP;

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TITLE : SENSE OF TOUCH GENERATOR  
USING THERMOMODULE



ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a sense of touch generator which produces a temperature feeling to operator such as hot and cold feeling that has not been realized in a conventional virtual reality generator.

SOLUTION: The generator is provided with a thermomodule 1 which has elements to generate temperature to be felt and forms a feeling surface, a DC current source 2 which drives the thermomodule 1, a power supply control section 3 which controls the DC current source 2, a temperature sensor 4 which measures the temperature of the thermomodule 1, a temperature sensor input section 5, a control section 6 which determines the amount of the control to the section 3 from the output value of the sensor 4 and the temperature information to decide the amount of feedback and conducts a feedback control, a driving section 7 which forms the moving mechanism of a portion of the thermomodule 1 and a control section 8 which controls the section 7. The moving mechanism moves the tactual sens surface to temperature being feedback controlled into a contact state.

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